

REMARKS

Claims 14-19 and 37-39 are currently pending. With this Response, claims 1-13 and 20-36 are canceled, claims 14 and 37 are amended and new claim 39 is added, as shown above.

Claims 13 and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Stuby (U.S. Patent No. 3,648,131). Claims 13 and 36 have been canceled without prejudice making this rejection moot.

Claims 14-18 and 37-38 were objected to as being dependant upon a rejected base claim, but indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claims 14 and 37 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 15-18 and 38 depend from either rewritten claim 14 or 37. Therefore, claims 14-18 and 37-38 are believed to be allowable.

Claim 14, already being allowable as described above, is further amended to change "horizontal saw-line" to "horizontal line". Support for this amended claim language can be found in the original specification as filed in the first sentence of the Brief Summary of the Invention (paragraph 14), where it is indicated that a saw or "other cutting tool" will later cut the wafer along the line containing the set of holes to separate individual IC die formed on the wafer. It is believed that such amendment does not affect the allowability of the claim, nor require further searching.

Claim 19, previously withdrawn from consideration, depends from allowable claim 16. Accordingly, claim 19 is believed to be allowable.

Newly added claim 39 depends from allowable claim 14, and therefore should also be considered allowable.

Conclusion

In light of the above amendments and remarks, claims 14-19 and 37-39 are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, allowance and furtherance towards issuance of these claims is respectfully requested.

No fee is believed due with this amendment. Should a fee be due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 06-1325.

Respectfully submitted,

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